



**GOVERNOR'S ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
General Meeting – July 31, 2013
10:00 A.M.**

Location: 1700 W. Washington
Second Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, AZ

Members Present: Dr. Craig Barrett (telephonic), Superintendent John Huppenthal, Rep. Jeff Dial (ex-officio), Tim Carter, Pearl Esau (telephonic), Brad Holaway, Eileen Klein, Jake Logan, Amanda McAdams, Colleen Niccum, Kathy Player, Tom Tyree, Sen. Kimberly Yee (ex-officio), and Dr. Jim Zaharis (telephonic)

Members Absent: Dr. Rufus Glasper, Rep. Doris Goodale (ex-officio), Glen Hamer, Diane McCarthy, Jacob Moore, Onnie Shekerjian, Merl Waschler, and Sandra Watson

Staff Present: Rebecca Gau, and Dale Frost

Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Craig Barrett called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and introduced the purpose of the meeting, which was to receive an update from the Governor's Office of Education Innovation (GOEI), EDI on delivery chain, the AZ STEM Survey, the Graduation Rate Task Force, and receive information on the data system.

Dr. Barrett called for an approval of the June 18, 2013 Council meeting minutes as presented. Tim Carter moved for the approval, Kathy Player seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Update: Governor's Office of Education Innovation

Dr. Barrett introduced Rebecca Gau with the Governor's Office of Education Innovation (GOEI). Ms. Gau gave the Council a brief update on the Common Core Teacher and Omnibus surveys, the 3rd and 4th Goal revisions and a communications update. The Council had no questions for Ms. Gau regarding her updates.

Update: EDI – Council Delivery Chain

Ms. Gau then introduced Kathy Cox with U.S. Education Delivery Institute (EDI). Ms. Cox briefly reviewed the work that EDI has done with performance management across the country and touched briefly on specific projects in other states. Ms Cox then asked the Council who they saw as the "guiding coalition" in Arizona. Supt. Huppenthal mentioned several individuals that he felt were strong advocates for education in Arizona. Ms. Cox advised that from her vantage point of looking

in from the outside she sees the Council as a possibility for a guiding coalition in Arizona. Tim Carter agreed with the need for such a guiding coalition but shared concerns regarding the lack of agreement in the state at time in regards to such things like a new assessment. Ms. Cox agreed that this can be an issue if the guiding coalition does have a shared view of progress and advised the Council that establishing a shared view of progress is exactly what EDI can do for the Council and GOEI. Dr. Barrett then asked Ms. Cox to lay out exactly what it is that she is proposing for the Council. Ms. Cox advised that she proposes that EDI assists GOEI in helping keep the Council focused on the four goals and providing reliable data, addressing questions, and using the Council as the place to establish the shared view of progress for education reform in Arizona. Ms. Gau advised that GOEI was committed to;

- providing support for each pillar,
- providing consistent, reliable data and analysis on progress to date
- addressing council questions,
- helping to problem solve issues related to meeting the four goals

Supt. Huppenthal advised that he believes that the Council's focus should be on an IT system for the state and assigning a new assessment. Ms. Cox agreed that these were very important issues and based off the GOEI timeline for the next four Council meetings, there is ample opportunity to address these issues.

Update: AZ STEM Survey

Dr. Barrett then introduced Margaret Mullen with the Science Foundation Arizona (SFAz). Ms. Mullen reviewed with the Council the results of SFAz survey on K-12 Education Needs in Rural and Remote Arizona. Ms. Mullen explained that one of the drivers behind this survey was to assess what rural teachers needed to improve science and math. Ms. Mullen explained that SFAz found that a majority of science and math teachers in rural Arizona were under qualified and that a majority of these teachers reported that they receive little to no valuable professional development in their roles. Ms. Mullen also advised that the top three requests from these teachers to help improve academic performance in math and science were;

- Funds for Supplies
- Equipment
- Professional Development

Ms. Mullen advised that SFAz will commit \$15 million to a 3-year Rural and Remote Initiative which will begin with a focus on Navajo and Apache Counties as areas of greatest need, and reviewed the programs that will be part of this initiative.

Update: Data System

Dr. Barrett introduced Aaron Sandeen with the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA). Mr. Sandeen gave the Council an overview of the fiscal year 2014 (FY14) State Budget as it pertains to technology for the State of Arizona, a review of the increased oversight of technology projects, and information on the FY14 Department of Education projects. Eileen Klein asked if Mr. Sandeen could advise when, in the next year, can the Council expect to see improvements in school funding accuracy in regards to student counts. Mr. Sandeen advised that he cannot answer that at this time and that he would direct that question to ADE directly. Mr. Sandeen did advise that he has been working diligently with ADE to help develop deliverables for this project. Supt. Huppenthal took this opportunity to thank Mr. Sandeen and his staff for the cooperation and time that they have dedicated to this project. Mr. Frost asked if Mr. Sandeen had an idea of when ADOA may be able to inform on the larger scope of the ADE project. Mr. Sandeen advised that he will look at projects in a

four year cycle and is currently working with ADE to build information in that same four year cycle so that informed decisions can be made. Dr. Barrett asked Mr. Sandeen if he had an estimate on how much the State of Arizona spends on IT a year. Mr. Sandeen advised that he does not have an estimate due to IT being handled in different ways with each State Department. When asked by Dr. Barrett for a very general guess, Mr. Sandeen replied less than 4% of the total budget and possibly even less than that. Tim Carter asked if Mr. Sandeen could give insight on if this new system would be an improvement or complicate things with more layers of bureaucracy. Mr. Sandeen explained that how the education data system was built in Arizona was done piece-meal over countless years and at this point is not a maintainable system and that the new data system is necessary for accurate data reporting on schools and students in Arizona. Supt. Huppenthal further explained that there is little to no security built into the current data system and that these improvements will add the needed security into the new data system.

Update: Graduation Rate Task Force Update

Dr. Barrett introduced Rebecca Gau again to review the current work of the Graduation Task Force. Ms. Gau advised the council of the status of the recommendation white papers that are being discussed in the Task Force and reviewed next steps.

Council Comments

Chair Barrett reviewed possible agenda topics for the September 11th meeting;

- Data System Update
- Review Graduation Rate Recommendations
- Common Core Update

Public Comments

Hal Borhauer with Peoria Unified School District addressed the Council. Mr. Borhauer challenged the Council to consider adding more action items to the agenda that the Council can support and inform the Legislature of agreed upon actions from the Council.

Adjourn

With no further business before the Council, Jake Logan motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Kathy Player and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.